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Financing of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea

Report of the Fifth Committee

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I. Introduction

1. At its 9th plenary meeting, on 11 September 2000, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 41st and 43rd meetings, on 18 and 22 December 2000. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/55/SR.41 and 43).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General containing the proposed budget for the establishment and operation of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea for the period from 31 July 2000 to 30 June 2001 (A/55/666) and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/55/688).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.26

4. At the 43rd meeting, on 22 December 2000, the representative of Namibia and coordinator of the informal consultations on the item, introduced, on behalf of the Chairman, a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea" (A/C.5/55/L. 26).

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.26 without a vote (see para. 6).

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III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 1312 (2000) of 31 July 2000 regarding the establishment of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea,

Recognizing that the costs of the Mission are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recognizing also that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Mission, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such operations,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Expresses concern* about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursements to troop contributors, which bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

2. *Urges* all Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea in full and on time;

3. *Expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

4. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

[1] A/55/666.

[2] A/55/688.

5. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the Mission, and for this purpose requests the Secretary-General to speed up the implementation of the asset management system at all peacekeeping missions in accordance with General Assembly resolution 52/1 A of 15 October 1997;

7. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[2]

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to recruit local staff for the Mission against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Mission;

10. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into commitments for the establishment and operation of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea for the period from 31 July 2000 to 30 June 2001 in an amount not exceeding 150 million United States dollars gross (148,220,200 dollars net), inclusive of the amount of 50 million dollars gross (49,715,100 dollars net) authorized by the Advisory Committee under the terms of section IV of General Assembly resolution 49/233 A of 23 December 1994, and of the costs related to the dispatch of reconnaissance and liaison teams to the mission area, and requests the Secretary-General to establish a Special Account for the Mission;

11. *Decides*, as an ad hoc arrangement, to apportion among Member States the amount of 102,192,982 dollars gross (100,980,428 dollars net) for the period from 31 July 2000 to 15 March 2001, in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of its resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 49/249 A of 20 July 1995, 49/249 B of 14 September 1995, 50/224 of 11 April 1996, 51/218 A to C of 18 December 1996 and 52/230 of 31 March 1998 and its decisions 48/472 A of 23 December 1993, 50/451 B of 23 December 1995 and 54/456, 54/457 and 54/458 of 23 December 1999, the scale of assessments for 2000[3] to be applied against a portion thereof, that is, 68,421,052 dollars gross (67,609,214 dollars net), which is the amount pertaining to the period ending 31 December 2000, and the scale of assessments for 2001[4] to be applied against the balance, that is, 33,771,930 dollars gross (33,371,214 dollars net) for the period from 1 January to 15 March 2001;

12. *Also decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 A (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 11 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 1,212,554 dollars

[3] See resolutions 52/215 A and 54/237 A.

[4] To be adopted by the General Assembly.

approved for the Mission for the period from 31 July 2000 to 15 March 2001, 811,838 dollars being the amount pertaining to the period ending 31 December 2000 and the balance, that is, 400,716 dollars, pertaining to the period from 1 January to 15 March 2001;

13. *Further decides*, as an ad hoc arrangement, to apportion among Member States the amount of 47,807,018 dollars gross (47,239,772 dollars net) for the period from 16 March to 30 June 2001 at a monthly rate of 13,596,491 dollars gross (13,435,164 dollars net), in accordance with the scheme set out in the present resolution and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 2001,[4] subject to any decision by the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Mission beyond 15 March 2001;

14. *Decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 A (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 13 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 567,246 dollars approved for the Mission for the period from 16 March to 30 June 2001;

15. *Also decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the Mission the additional amount of 9,190,200 dollars gross (8,741,600 dollars net) for the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001, to be apportioned, as an ad hoc arrangement, among Member States in accordance with the scheme set out in the present resolution, the scale of assessments for the year 2000[3] to be applied against a portion thereof, that is 4,595,100 dollars gross (4,370,800 dollars net), which is the amount pertaining to the period ending 31 December 2000, and the scale of assessments for the year 2001[4] to be applied against the balance, that is, 4,595,100 dollars gross (4,370,800 dollars net) for the period from 1 January to 30 June 2001;

16. *Further decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 A (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 15 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 448,600 dollars approved for the support account for peacekeeping operations for the period from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001, 224,300 dollars being the amount pertaining to the period ending 31 December 2000 and the balance, that is, 224,300 dollars, pertaining to the period from 1 January to 30 June 2001;

17. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

18. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Mission;

19. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

20. *Decides* to keep under review during its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea".